

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended). A[[n]] hand portable air compressor assembly, comprising:

an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure, ~~the air tank having an unpainted outer surface;~~

an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank;

a shroud substantially enclosing the air tank and the air compressor;

and

a lifting handle whereby the hand portable air compressor assembly may be hand carried by a user.

~~an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank.~~

2 (Currently Amended). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the ~~shroud encloses the air compressor~~ air tank includes a substantially unpainted outer surface .

3 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "pancake" type.

4 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "hot-dog" type.

5 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical "hot-dog" type.

6 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of in claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "double hot-dog" type.

7 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical stationary type.

8 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air tank is made of metal.

9 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 7, wherein the air tank is made of steel.

10 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air tank is made of plastic.

11 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the shroud is made of plastic.

12 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the shroud is made of metal.

13 (Currently Amended). A hand portable air compressor assembly, comprising:

an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure, the air tank having a

first air access port thereof ~~and having an unpainted outer surface;~~

an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank;

an electric motor for driving the air compressor;

a shroud substantially enclosing the air tank, the motor and the air compressor;

and

~~an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank.~~

a lifting handle whereby the hand portable air compressor assembly
may be hand carried by a user.

14 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein through the first air access port air is supplied to and released from the air tank.

15 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 14, wherein the first air access port is located at a bottom wall of the air tank.

16 (Cancelled).

17 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air tank has a second air access port.

18 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 17, wherein through the first air access port air is supplied to the air tank by the air compressor and through the second air access port air is released from the air tank.

19 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 18, wherein the first air access port is located at a top wall of the air tank and the second air access port is located at a bottom wall of the air tank.

20 (Currently Amended). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein ~~the shroud encloses the air compressor~~ air tank includes a substantially unpainted outer surface.

21 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud is made of plastic.

22 (Withdrawn). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud is made of metal.

23 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air tank is made of metal.

24 (Withdrawn). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air tank is made of plastic.

25 (Currently Amended). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the lifting handle is formed by a portion of the shroud ~~includes a handle for allowing the portable air compressor assembly to be lifted and transported from place to place.~~

26 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, further comprises a control panel to allow operation of the portable air compressor assembly to be controlled.

27 (Withdrawn). A method for manufacturing an air compressor assembly, comprising:

providing an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure, the air tank

having an unpainted outer surface;

providing an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank; and

enclosing the air tank with a shroud.

28 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, further comprising enclosing the air compressor assembly in the shroud.

29 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a portable type.

30 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 29, wherein the shroud is made of plastic.

31 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "pancake" type.

32 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "hot-dog" type.

33 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical "hot-dog" type.

34 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "double hot-dog" type.

35 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical stationary type.

NEW CLAIMS

36 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, and further comprising a pressure regulator substantially enclosed by the shroud.

37 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the lifting handle is formed by a portion of the shroud.

38 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 37, wherein the air tank and compressor are supported by the shroud.

39 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor and air tank are supported by the shroud.

40 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, and further comprising a tubing connected between the air compressor and the air tank, the tubing enclosed within the shroud.

41 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, and further comprising a means for driving the air compressor enclosed within the shroud.

42 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 41, wherein the means for driving the air compressor is an electric motor.

43 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 41, wherein the means for driving the air compressor is an internal combustion engine.

44 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 42, wherein electric motor is supported on the interior of the shroud.

45 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 13, and further comprising a pressure regulator substantially enclosed by the shroud.

46 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the lifting handle is formed by a portion of the shroud.

47 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 46, wherein the air tank and compressor are supported on the interior of the shroud.

48 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air compressor and air tank are supported by the shroud.

49 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 13, and further comprising a tubing connected between the air compressor and the air tank, the tubing enclosed within the shroud.

50 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein electric motor is supported on the interior of the shroud.

51 (New). A hand portable air compressor assembly, comprising:

an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure;

an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank;

a motor for driving the air compressor;

a shroud substantially enclosing the air tank, the air compressor, and the motor; and

a lifting handle whereby the hand portable air compressor assembly may be hand carried by a user.

52 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 51, and further comprising a pressure regulator substantially enclosed by the shroud.

53 (New). The air compressor assembly of claim 51, wherein the lifting handle is formed by a portion of the shroud

54 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 53, wherein the air tank and air compressor are supported by the shroud.

55 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 51, wherein the air tank and air compressor are supported by the shroud.

56 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 51, and further comprising a tubing connected between the air compressor and the air tank, the tubing enclosed within the shroud.

57 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 51, wherein the shroud is a clamshell type shroud.

58 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 57, wherein the shroud includes a first shell portion and a second shell portion.

59 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 58, wherein the first shell portion includes an interior surface and the interior surface includes an arrangement of internal support members.

60 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 59, wherein the air tank is substantially supported on the interior surface of the first shell portion by the arrangement of internal support members.

61 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 59, wherein the air compressor is substantially supported on the interior surface of the first

shell portion by the arrangement of internal support members.

62 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 59, wherein the electric motor is substantially supported on the interior surface of the first shell portion by the arrangement of internal support members.

63 (New). The hand portable air compressor of claim 57 wherein the shroud includes a base portion and lifting handle is above the base portion, and the first shell portion and the second shell portion are joined along a substantially vertical plane.

64 (New). The hand portable air compressor of claim 51 and further comprising a base.

65 (New). The hand portable air compressor of claim 64 wherein the base is formed by a portion of the shroud.

66 (New). The hand portable air compressor of claim 53 wherein the shroud includes a first ventilation opening, located proximate to the base portion, and a second ventilation opening, located above the first ventilation opening and proximate to the lifting handle.

67 (New). The hand portable air compressor assembly of claim 54, wherein the air compressor and motor are arranged along a vertical axis within the shroud and the air tank is located alongside the air compressor and motor along a substantially vertically parallel axis.